Ms. Ramona M. Branch, Archivist
Textual Reference Division
National Archives at College Park
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001

Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Rd.
Frederick, MD 21702

1/1/97

file Russell

Dear Ms. Branch,

Thank you for the information in your letter of the 30th.

I would like to get a dub of the tape of that 7:54 p.m. conversation between President Johnson and Senator Russell on 9/18/64.

Not knowing how to address those to whom you refer me I ask that you please refer this request for that dub to the proper person there. I'll pay the costs.

Unless there are documents in the Commission's files that were not there in 1968 the significance of that conversation on that date may not be apparent to scholars looking to learn rather than validate a point of view. I wrote about that in my 1974 book Whitewash IV.

Later I wrote about that in greater detail in an unpublished manuscript That in time will be available at local Hood College. I also include some in my 1995 NEVER AGAIN! which was published by Carroll & Graf.

Senator Russell was the first critic of the Warren Report, as the news stories I cite in NEVER AGAIN! do not make clear. Senator Cooper joined him in that. Senator Russell told me that Congressman Hale Boggs had the same doubts but not as strongly.

If any scholars inquire about this and would like copies I'll be glad to provide them.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

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Dear Ms. Branch,

Thank you for the information in your letter of the 30th.

Ms. Barbehenn had been in touch with some of your people. They referred her to the LBJ Library and from it she is getting a dub of the tape.

Unless there are now documents in the Commission's files that were not there in 1968 much of the significance of that LBJ-Senator Russell conversation will not be perceived. I believe it should be of interest to authentic scholars.

I wrote about it to a limited degree in my 1974 book, Whitewash IV.

There is more in my 1995 NEVER AGAIN!

After writing that I wrote a lengthier account that I make available to scholars and will be part of my records at local Hood College.

My sources were Senator Russell himself, his legislative assistant and records he and Senator John Sherman Cooper left. These make it clear that Senator Cooper agreed with Senator Russell on the impossibility of the basic single-bullet theory and that to a lesser degree Congressman Hale Boggs did, too.

Thank you for your help,

Harold Weisberg

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